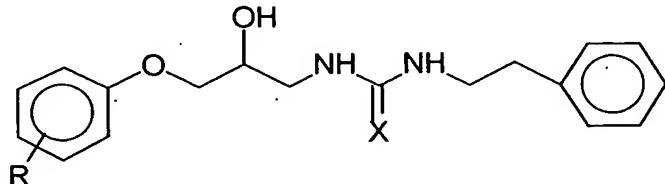


We claim:

1. N-aryloxypropanolyl-N'-phenethyl urea of general formula 3 wherein R is selected from the group consisting of H, 2, 3 or 4-trifluoromethyl, 2, 3, or 4-chloro, 2, 3, or 4-bromo, 4-acetyl, 4-propionyl, 4-acetamido, 2,3 or 4 methoxy, 4 nitrile, 2,3 or 4-methyl and 4-formyl and X is S or O.

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Formula 3

2. A compound of formula 3 a claimed in claim 1 selected from the group consisting of.

3a. N-[2-hydroxy-3-(4-trifluoromethylphenoxy)propyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-urea.

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3b. N-[2-hydroxy-3-phenoxypropyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-urea

3c. N-[2-hydroxy-3-(3-trifluoromethylphenoxy)propyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-urea.

3d. N-[3-(4-chlorophenoxy)-2-hydroxypropyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-urea.

3e. N-[3-(4-bromophenoxy)-2-hydroxypropyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-urea.

3f. N-[3-(4-acetylphenoxy)-2-hydroxypropyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-urea.

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3g. N-[2-hydroxy-3-(4-propionylphenoxy)propyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-urea.

3h. N-[3-(4-acetamidophenoxy)-2-hydroxypropyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-urea.

3i. N-[2-hydroxy-3-(2-methoxyphenoxy)propyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-urea.

3j. N-[2-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenoxy)propyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-urea.

3k. N-[3-(4-cyanophenoxy)-2-hydroxypropyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-urea.

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3l. N-[2-hydroxy-3-(2-methylphenoxy)propyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-urea.

3m. N-[2-hydroxy-3-(3-methoxyphenoxy)propyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-urea.

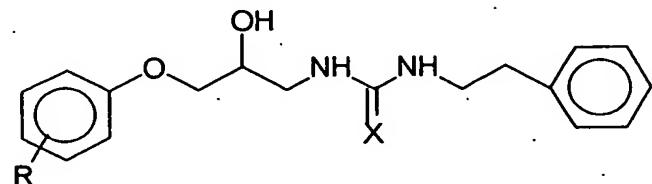
3n. N-[2-hydroxy-3-(4-trifluoromethylphenoxy)propyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-thiourea

3o. N-[2-hydroxy-3-(4-propionylphenoxy)propyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-thiourea.

3p. N-[2-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenoxy)propyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-thiourea

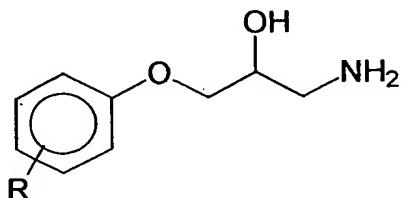
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3. A process for the preparation of N-aryloxypropanolyl-N'-phenethyl urea derivatives of the formula 3



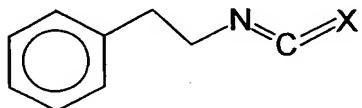
Formula 3

wherein X is S or O and R is selected from the group consisting of H, 2, 3 or 4-trifluoromethyl, 2, 3, or 4-chloro, 2, 3, or 4-bromo, 4-acetyl, 4-propionyl, 4-acetamido, 2,3 or 4 methoxy, 4 nitrile, 2,3 or 4-methyl and 4- formyl,  
5 the process comprising reacting a substituted phenolic compound with epichlorohydrin in the presence of alkali carbonate to obtain the corresponding phenoxy epoxy propane which is then reacted with ammonium hydroxide to obtain aminoalcohol of formula 1



Formula 1

wherein R is as given above, which is then reacted with a cyanate compound of formula 2  
10 wherein X is oxygen or sulphur



Formula 2

to obtain the compound of formula 3

4. A process as claimed in claim 3 wherein the alkali carbonate is selected from K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>.
- 15 5. A process as claimed in claim 3 wherein the reaction between compound of formula 1 and compound of formula 2 is carried out in an aprotic solvent selected from the group consisting of CH<sub>3</sub>CN, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, THF and 1,2-Dichloroethane.
6. A process as claimed in claim 3 wherein the reaction between compound of formula 1 and compound of formula 2 is carried out at a temperature in the range of 15-50°C for a period ranging between 5-18 hrs.
- 20 7. A process as claimed in claim 3 wherein the reaction between compound of formula 1 and compound of formula 2 is carried out in equimolar proportions of compound 1 and compound 2.
8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising compound of formula 3 with one or more conventional additives.
- 25 9. A method for the treatment of obesity comprising administering to a subject suffering from obesity, a pharmaceutically effective amount of compound of formula 3.

10. A method as claimed in claim 9 wherein the compound of formula 3 is administered in the form of a pharmaceutical composition of compound of formula 3 with pharmaceutically acceptable additives.
11. Use of compound of formula 3 alone or with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients for the treatment of obesity.
- 5 12. Use as claimed in claim 11 wherein N-[2-hydroxy-3-[4-trifluoromethylphenoxy] propyl]-N'-2-phenethylurea (3a) shows same activity as Sibutramine.
13. Use as claimed in claim 11 wherein (N-[2-hydroxy-3-(4-trifluoromethylphenoxy) propyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-urea, showed a decrease of 41.42% in food intake as compared to 10 food intake in the control group.
14. Use as claimed in claim 11 wherein (N-[2-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenoxy) propyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-urea (compound 3j), showed decrease of 31.82% in food intake as compared to food intake in the control group.
15. Use as claimed in claim 11 wherein (N-[2-hydroxy-3-(4-trifluoromethylphenoxy) propyl]-N'-2-phenethyl-thiourea (compound 3n), showed decrease of 28.4% in food intake as compared to food intake in the control group

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